

Please find below, Utah State Parks and Recreation news for October 6:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Hollie Brown (801) 537-3477

Deena Loyola (801) 538-7347/ (801) 554-5199

stateparks.utah.gov

- 23rd Annual Bison Range Ride and Roundup
- Utah State Parks Boating Safety Tip of the Month
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23rd ANNUAL BISON RANGE RIDE AND ROUNDUP

Syracuse - The public is invited to attend a modern, western roundup from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, October 31 and if necessary, Sunday, November 1 when horseback riders move the Antelope Island bison herd from the southern tip of the island, to the handling facility located at the park's northern end. This annual event is an opportunity for the public to see the roundup of one of the nation's largest and oldest public herds.

Visitors may view the riders and bison from the eastside road leading to the Fielding Garr Ranch. A complete and sweeping view of the action is available from a safe distance. Visitors are encouraged to bring binoculars for a closer view of the animals and handlers.

From November 6 through November 8 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily, visitors may observe as the bison are weighed, blood-tested, inoculated, and scanned. All bison have a microchip implanted behind the ear, which serves as permanent identification and stores the animal's health history.

On Saturday, November 14 the excess bison will be sold in order to keep the population within the carrying capacity of the island's available forage. The sale is held at the Antelope Island State Park Bison Corrals. Sale animals may be viewed as early as 8 a.m. with the sale beginning at 10 a.m. sharp. For additional sale information, please call Steve Bates at (801) 209-4678.

Food, drink, and memorabilia, such as t-shirts and sweatshirts, are available for purchase throughout the Bison Roundup. To reach Antelope Island State Park, take I-15 to exit 332 (Syracuse-Freeport Center) and travel west on Antelope Drive to the entrance station. Park fees are \$9 per vehicle or \$3 for bicyclists and walk-ins. For more information, please call (801) 773-2941.

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UTAH STATE PARKS BOATING SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Salt Lake City -- As colder weather approaches, Utah State Parks Assistant Boating Program Manager Chris Haller reminds boaters how to prepare for and what do if caught in foul weather.

- Wear your lifejacket
- Keep a sharp lookout for other vessels and floating debris
- If there is fog, sound your horn or whistle
- If your vessel has more than one fuel tank, switch to a full fuel tank
- Head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach
- Head into waves at a 45 degree angle
- Close all hatches and windows to reduce the chance of swamping
- Reduce speed, but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering
- Secure loose items
- If engine stops, drop the anchor from the bow
- Carry appropriate warm clothing

Weather can change very rapidly and create unexpected situations for vessel operators. Boaters should always watch for changes in the weather and monitor the weather forecast. As always, make sure you inform a close friend and/or relative of where you are boating and your expected time of return.

For more boating information, or to take a boating course, visit stateparks.utah.gov or call 538-BOAT. Wear it UTAH!

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UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

October 17 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse
Hands on Antelope: Join the park naturalist at the visitor center amphitheater from 1 to 3 p.m. to learn about the park's most interesting mammal, the pronghorn. (801) 773-2941.

October 18 and 25 Dead Horse Point State Park - Moab
Dry Scaly Creatures of the Desert: Join park staff at 7 p.m. at the visitor center amphitheater for a program about reptiles. Learn about reptiles and discover what lives at Dead Horse Point State Park. (435) 259-2614

October 22 Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum - Blanding
Archaeology and You: Join archaeologist Allen Dart at 6:30 p.m. to learn about the importance of American Indian artifacts and why they shouldn't be removed or destroyed. (435) 678-2238

October 22 Dead Horse Point State Park - Moab
Scorpions - Scary Looking Creatures: Join park staff at the visitor center amphitheater at 7 p.m. for a program on these fascinating and misunderstood creatures of the desert. (435) 259-2614

October 22 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway
Join author Jeffrey Mathes McCarthy at 7 p.m. for a presentation on his collection of climbing narratives illuminating our culture's relationship to the natural world. This discussion is for climbers, outdoor lovers, and anyone involved and interested in environmental issues. (435) 654-1791

October 23 Dead Horse Point State Park - Moab
Bat Program: Join park staff to learn the truth about these beneficial and necessary rulers of the night....bats. Meet at the visitor center amphitheater at 7:30 p.m. for games, an audio/visual presentation and night bat viewing. (435) 259-2614

October 23 Snow Canyon State Park - Ivins
Scorpion Search: Have you ever wanted to see a scorpion up close? Join park staff at 7 p.m. to learn about these amazing creatures and search for resident scorpions! Space is limited and registration is required. (435) 628-2255

October 24 Camp Floyd State Park and Museum - Fairfield
Ghosts of Camp Floyd: Join park staff at 5:30 p.m. for a paranormal investigation of Camp Floyd looking for orbs, mists, and sounds. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own tape recorders, film, digital and infrared cameras. A brief presentation is conducted to familiarize visitors with ghost hunting techniques before the investigation begins. (801) 768-8932

October 24 Fremont Indian State Park and Museum - Sevier
Scary Story Trail: Enjoy trick-or-treating, haunted trail, spooky stories around a campfire, American Indian village, games and contests, cake walk, and hay rides. Day-use fee is \$6 per vehicle up to eight people, with a 50% discount for Utah seniors. For more information or to volunteer for this event, contact Kari Carlisle at karicarlisle@utah.gov or (435) 527-4631.

October 24 Dead Horse Point State Park - Moab
Useful Desert Plants: Join park staff at 7 p.m. in the visitor center amphitheater for a program about some of the plants on the Colorado Plateau. We will talk about the ancient American Indian tribes who lived in the area and how they used these plants to survive in the desert. (435) 259-2614

October 24 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse
Junior Ranger Program - Preparing for Winter: Join the park naturalist at noon at the visitor center amphitheater to earn a Junior Ranger badge or update your skills while discovering how the animals of Antelope Island prepare for winter. Do they store food for winter? Change their colors? Grow thicker fur? Explore these questions and more with hands on activities. (801) 773-2941

October 25

Dead Horse Point State Park - Moab

Up Close and Personal: Meet the park ranger at the Dead Horse Point overlook from 10 to 11 a.m. Learn about the park's many wonders and take a closer look at the world in and around the park. (435) 259-2614

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